

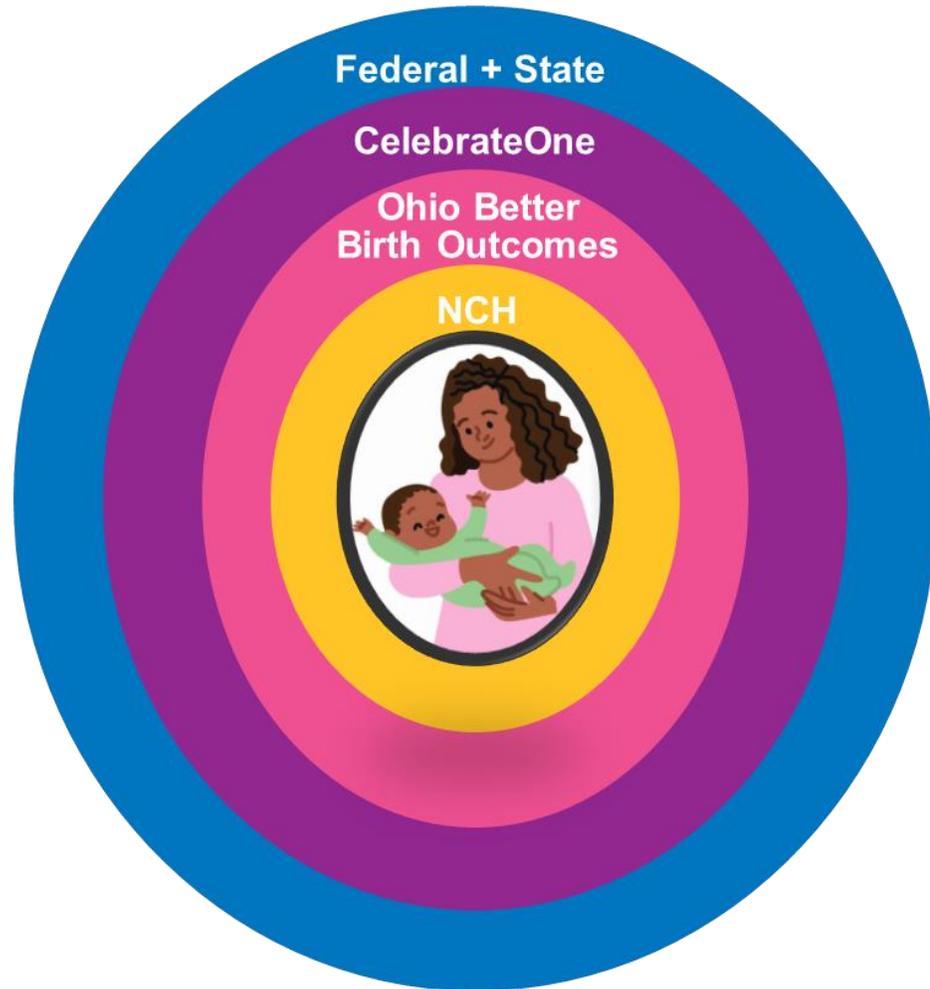
Reducing Infant Mortality

When Health Systems Collaborate



**OHIO BETTER
BIRTH OUTCOMES**

Ohio Better Birth Outcomes (OBBO)



NATIONWIDE
CHILDREN'S



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY
WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER



MOUNT CARMEL



OhioHealth
BELIEVE IN WE™

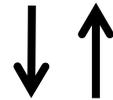
OBBO Mission

Reduce the infant mortality rate in Franklin County by improving the delivery of health services for women and their families using quality improvement science to guide our work.

Structure

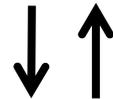
Board

- CMOs - Hospital Systems (4) and FQHCs (3)
- COHC
- CPH Health Commissioner



Operations Team

*Clinical, Nursing & Government Affairs
leadership*



Work Team

*Prenatal Care Clinic Teams
(physicians, nursing, social work, etc)*

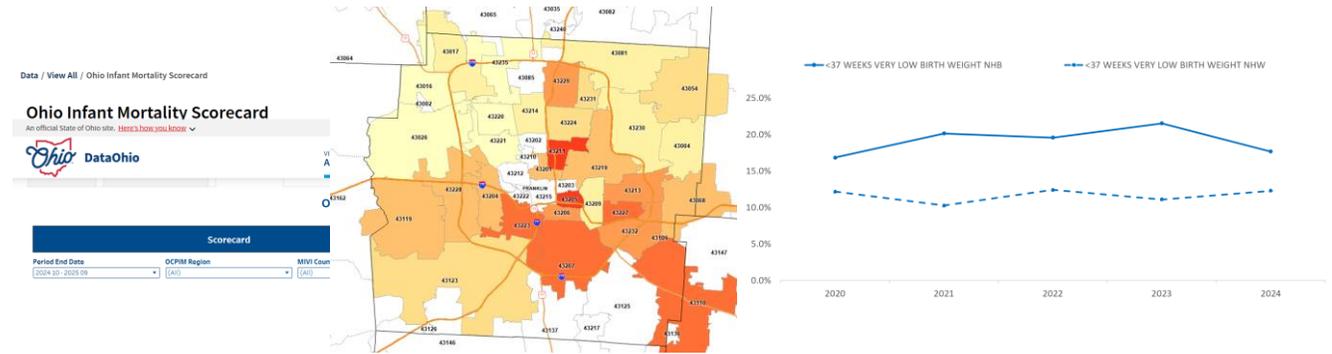
OBBO Priorities

1. Direct funding to support evidence-based community programs
2. Shared QI projects to reduce prematurity- and sleep-related deaths

Community Level Impacts



Access to Data



Funding



Partnerships



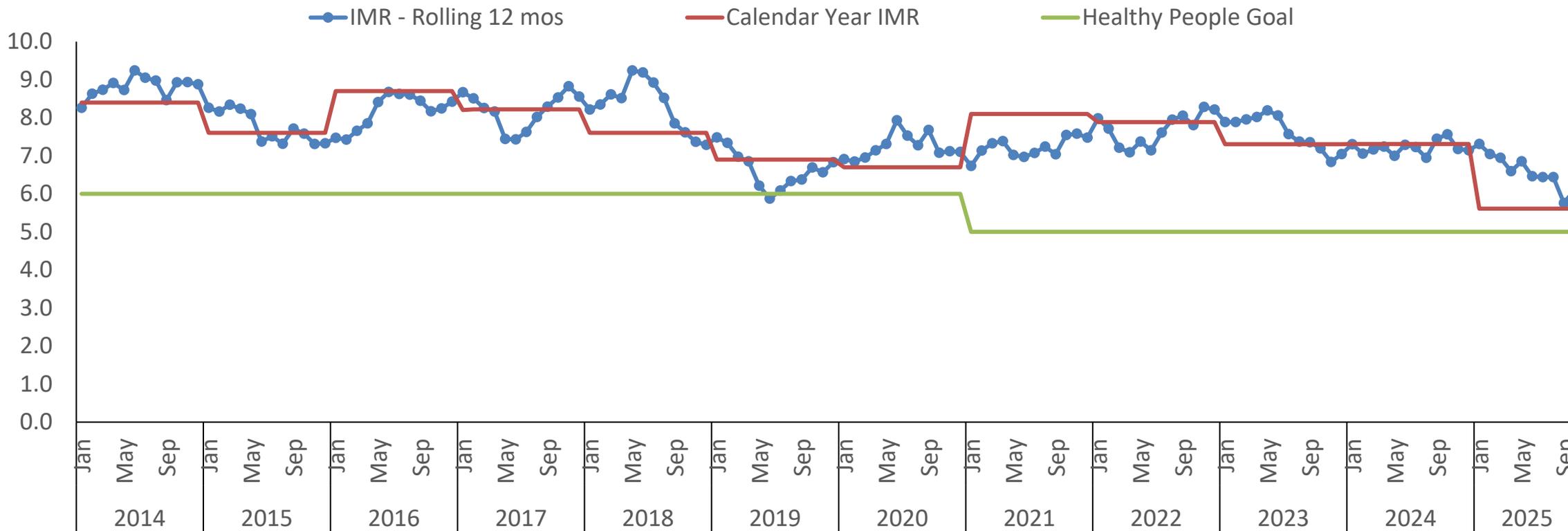
Franklin County Infant Mortality Rate

Rolling 12 Months Average

January 2014 – September 2025



OHIO BETTER
BIRTH OUTCOMES



Yearly Rate (Deaths/Births):

2014: 8.3 (156/18893) 2015: 7.5 (143/19140) 2016: 8.7 (165/19028) 2017: 8.2 (155/18869) 2018: 7.5 (137/18310) 2019: 6.9 (127/18375)
2020: 6.7 (118/17534) 2021: 8.0 (139/17418) 2022: 7.9 (138/17497) 2023: 7.3 (125/17113) 2024*: 7.3 (127/17381) 2025*: 5.6 (73/13014)

CONFIDENTIAL

Quality Assurance and Peer Review Information Protected by Law

(ORC 2305.24, 2305.25, 2305.21, 2305.252, 2305.253)

Quality Assurance and Peer Review Records are Privileged and Confidential, are not Discoverable, and Cannot be Used as Evidence

ODH birth/death certificate data can be used for internal purposes and should not be shared externally without a BAA or data aggregation in compliance with the

Data Use Agreement.

Infant Mortality = Franklin County Deaths < 1 year old / Franklin County Live Births x 1000

The Healthy People Goal is set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Data Sources: Ohio Department of Health Office of Vital Statistics, analyzed by Nationwide Children's Hospital

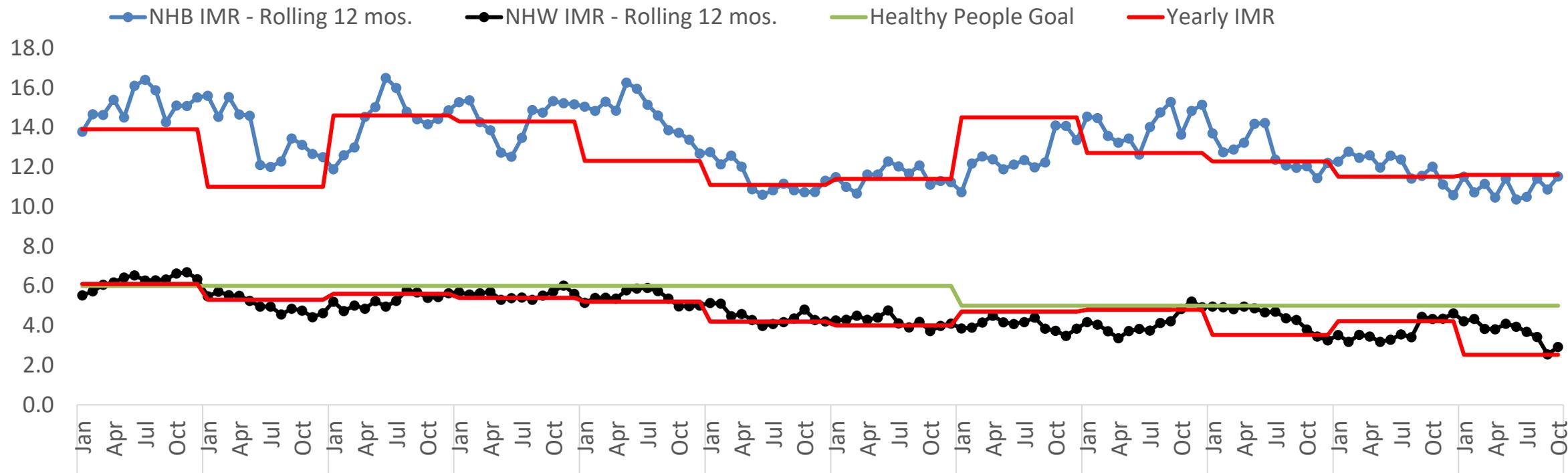
Birth and death data as of September 2025, pulled 11/4/2025

*Note: 2024 & 2025 birth & death data are preliminary and subject to change

Franklin County Infant Mortality Rate

Rolling 12 Months Average Total & By Race

January 2014 – September 2025



NHB Yearly Rate (Deaths/Births):											
2014:	14.4	(79/5065)	2015:	11.9	(61/5132)	2016:	15.3	(82/5368)	2017:	15.0	(81/5384)
2018:	12.8	(69/5410)	2019:	11.5	(63/5484)	2020:	10.7	(56/5218)	2021:	14.5	(75/5158)
2022:	13.7	(71/5184)	2023:	12.3	(64/5216)	2024*:	11.5	(61/5298)	2025*:	11.6	(45/3879)

NHW Yearly Rate (Deaths/Births):											
2014:	5.8	(56/10207)	2015:	5.2	(53/10190)	2016:	5.7	(56/9842)	2017:	5.2	(51/9898)
2018:	5.1	(56/9842)	2019:	4.3	(39/9148)	2020:	3.9	(34/8809)	2021:	4.2	(36/8624)
2022:	5.0	(42/8472)	2023:	3.5	(28/7947)	2024*:	4.2	(33/7816)	2025*:	2.5	(15/5940)

CONFIDENTIAL

Quality Assurance and Peer Review Information Protected by Law
(ORC 2305.24, 2305.25, 2305.21, 2305.252, 2305.253)

Quality Assurance and Peer Review Records are Privileged and Confidential, are not Discoverable, and Cannot be Used as Evidence

ODH birth/death certificate data can be used for internal purposes and should not be shared externally without a BAA or data aggregation in compliance with the Data Use Agreement.

Infant Mortality = Franklin County Deaths < 1 year old / Franklin County Live Births x 1000

The Healthy People Goal is set by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Data Sources: Ohio Department of Health Office of Vital Statistics, analyzed by Nationwide Children's Hospital

Birth and death data as of September 2025, pulled 11/4/2025

*Note: 2024 & 2025 birth & death data are preliminary and subject to change

Qualitative Review Boards

Subset of deaths
Fetal demise and infant death
De-identified, anonymous
Family participation

**Fetal Infant
Mortality
Review
(FIMR)**

**Child
Fatality
Review
(CFR) - SUID**

All deaths among children 0-17
Identified and Confidential (ORC
protected)
Focus on sleep deaths

**Hospital
Chart
Reviews**

All infant deaths
Identified and Confidential
Discrete information in EMR
Aggregated across health systems

OBBO Priority Project Management



Summary

Aligned priority projects across hospitals/FQHCs

Interventions:

- SDoH screening & embedding CHWs in clinic
- Linkage to perinatal supports using CHWs (Home Visiting, Doula, Medical Legal Partnership, Housing, etc)
- Home Visiting capacity expansion
- Addressing Health Equity in Prenatal Care continuing education
- Future:
 - Doula capacity expansion
 - Incorporating community voice to identify interventions (Queen's Village, Focus Groups)

OBBO Hospital System Funding



Summary

Hospital System Direct Annual OBBO Contribution

NCH Annual In-kind Facilitation Investment

Direct Contribution from OBBO supports:

- Safe Sleep – Ongoing community campaign
- Medical Legal Partnership
- Queen’s Village Columbus
- Future:
 - Supporting pregnant women who are using substances and/or homeless
 - Expanding capacity for doula services

Regional Expansion



- \$5.5M over five years to reduce Infant Mortality in Ross, Pike, Scioto counties
- HRSA Healthy Start Goals:
 - 1) Reduce infant mortality rates in the U.S.
 - 2) Decrease disparities in infant mortality and poor perinatal health outcomes

Direct and enabling services

Case management /
care coordination

Group-based
health education

Community consortium

Multi-sector state, local, and community level
partners, including HS participants and
community members

Contact Us!



Christine Sander, MHA
Senior Director,
Community Wellness



Venita Robinson, MHSA
Director, Community
Wellness Initiatives &
Evaluation



Whitney Gordon
OBBO Project Manager and
Queen's Village Columbus
Program Manager

OhioBetterBirthOutcomes.org